WHAT THE HELL IS EVEN THAT?

A mockery made of the essay "Maoist Vegan Straight Edge - A New Ethic by a vegan egoist

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Evil Wizard Distro

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The Maoist model offers itself to security guards and students the world over as a tried and tested methodology of power, as a scientific strategy of national liberation. Generally known as Mao-Zedong Thought, this science offers aspiring chairmen and cadres the prospect of unprecedented power over living beings, human activities and even thoughts. The pope and priests of the Catholic Church, with all their inquisitions and confessions, never had such power, not because they would have rejected it, but because they lacked the instruments made available by modern science and technology.

- Fredy Perlman

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Recommended Further Reading

Straight Edge Anarchy: The Danger of a Sober Insurrection

Out Of Step With The World: Exploring Straight Edge as Anarchist Praxis

A Guide to Total Liberation in a Dying World

Veganarchism: Making Veganism and Anarchism Dangerous Again

Max & I by An-ok Ta Chi

Introduction: What The Fuck Did I Just Read?

“Just as my egoism constitutes a celebration of my ownership over my body, I respect the same for each and every other animal. Just as I assert my will and desire to be free from social control and domination, I recognize every other animals’ entitlement to a life free from the arbitrary authoritarianism of human supremacy. ” – Flower Bomb

“I know no ‘commandment of love.’ I have a fellow-feeling with every feeling being, and their torment torments, their refreshment refreshes me too” – Max Stirner

Holy shit. I find it hard to even write something about this because of how little substance is here but I’ll try. Where do I start with this?

It has recently come to my attention that a group called the Triad Maoist Collective (which seems to be just one person posturing as many, weird!) has recently published a piece called *Maoist Vegan Straight Edge – A New Ethic*. The essay attempts to synthesize Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, veganism, and straight edge into a cohesive form. The piece is a complete failure at this, and I will go into why later within this text.

To conduct a short opener, much of this piece is drivel. It reads as though someone read GradeSaver summaries of all the texts about dialectical materialism (especially with haste the summary of *On Contradiction*) and then shit something out in a WordPress blog post. The only difference between this and a college freshman’s all nighter final paper is that this turd has an air of pseudo-primacy surrounding it. I’m not even a Marxist or a Maoist and I can acknowledge that this individual’s understanding of either dialectic is shoddy.

Enough jabber though, I gotta get home soon to my tofu bake so let’s THROW DOWN.

Speciesist Logic in the Image of Veganism

There is a lot that I could lambast about this piece. I could point fun its awful logical line even for a Marxian essay, I could point out the comically large amount of buzzwords in the essay that the author clearly does not understand. Of course this will include both previously mentioned, but I will focus largely on one thing; there’s one thing that really gets me going. That would be its blatant anthropocentrist stance. It’s so fucking strange for a vegan essay to be taking a stance such as this. The author doesn’t even try to hide it either, the essay in all regards takes a position that is strikingly similar to ideas of human dominion presented by the Abrahamic religions. It makes complete sense to me why someone would come to this conclusion from a Marxian perspective, given that Marx the Father and his ensuing prophets (peace be upon them) indeed followed closely

Hegel’s rendering of the non-human to automaton (and perhaps the Marxians depreciated the non-human even further than Hegel did). This, I observe, is what the author implies when they write that “human beings are not different from animals save for our ability to imagine up a plan for the creation of a thing.” It is a depreciation of the uniqueness of the non-human.

Following the logic the author presents of the non-human as automaton, the author makes the claim that the oppression and reduction of the non-human to chattel slave was necessary. I am left without words at this. The full passage is below, after which I will expound my gripes with it in particular:

Since the creation of human history, it is known to be a history of class struggle. The key motive force of history is the struggle between the oppressed and the oppressor. All throughout this time, the exploitation of animals has persisted. Damning them to provide our existence. While this was a requirement to reach our level of advancement today due to the many centuries of dependence on cruel and basic tools, we are currently in an era where animal exploitation is not required to sustain life. The mechanization of agriculture, the industrialization of manufacture, the scientific advancement in food preparation and nutritional science have all contributed in the mass of sustenance that is free from the exploitation of animals.

This is a crazy self-report on the inability of Marxian class analysis to truly incorporate an anti-speciesist critique. In the author’s failed attempt to advocate for veganism using Maoist analysis, it states that not only is the non-human not a revolutionary subject, not only is it that they are merely caught in the cross-fire of this thinly-veiled notion of Manichaean spiritual warfare, but that the sacrifice of the non-human was necessary to advance the march of history? The carnage of many thousands of years of domination was necessary to get to a point where…..veganism is possible? What the actual fuck are you going on about? It’s possible now, ya dipshit.

Anyways, they then go on about how mass industry, mechanized agriculture, food science advancements have all contributed to “cruelty-free” food procurement. This is also complete bullshit, mass society and the apparatus of industry are quite the site for the oppression of non-human life. They are, I posit, a logical conclusion of anthroparchic logic. The plundering of the Earth and the biosphere are not vegan, and arguments made that they are, indeed, are rooted in the liberal rejection of intersectionality. Which again, I am not surprised by the tunnel vision of the Maoist on this matter.

Flower Bomb in *What Savages We Must Be* identifies that “*Mass society requires the ever-expanding displacement of wildlife to house the growing human population. Civilization is rooted by agriculture which is predicated on the basic formula of taking more from the land than putting back. This results in irreversible damage to all eco-systems that directly affect non-human animals*” (Flower Bomb 2018).

Sources

What Savages We Must Be: Vegans Without Morality by Flower Bomb

Against Speciesism Against Anthropocentrism: 8 Reasons for Radical Veganism

Barbaric Thoughts: On A Revolutionary Critique of Civilization by Wolfi Landstreicher

Nature as spectacle: The image of wilderness vs. wildness by Feral Faun

The Unique and its Property by Max Stirner

Egoist Vegan: Some Thoughts on an Individualist Animal Liberation by Flower Bomb

In conclusion, I don't see how this piece is any different than the veganism presented by the current world. One that pushes it as an idea not tied necessarily to the domination of the Human over the non-human. It is, because of this, no surprise to me that this piece has become a meme in veganarchist circles. It has become a laughingstock, and it has earned it place as such. Anyways I seriously gotta get my tofu bake out of the oven, bye-bye.

Addendum: Maoist Straight Edge isn't even a Minor Threat

"At least I can fucking think"

This will be a short section of this critique, focusing on the straight edge aspect of the essay. I will provide comment to the best of my ability, but it will be brief. This is because although I am incredibly sympathetic to the arguments presented by straight edge anarchists, I am but edge-curious and do not feel as though I am as wise to speak much on this matter as I am veganism. I am hoping that some of my straight edge friends would be able to build off of this further, I would love to see further dialogue about the straight edge aspect of this.

It seems as though, once again, the author misses the mark entirely about the point of a radical straight edge. The straight edge declared by many of those that propel towards total liberation is not one taken on to be of better loyalty to an institution or a Party but rather to be further disconnected from that which seeks to oppress. To declare this as the motivation for edge, this "positive proletarian change that helps one better advance the cause" to paraphrase the author's words, is far too similar to the church groups which seek to replace one form of co-dependency with another form. You trade your lust for booze with a lust for the chairman. This would defeat the purpose of attempting to "clear one's mind" really.

If you want to clear away the clouds of addiction from your mind, for the love of your own damn self do not replace binding to the booze for a binding to the religion. You're just keeping yourself down by doing this, free yourself from fixed ideas of all kinds as you see fit. *Combat Liberalism* would say otherwise, but I don't really give a fuck about that scripture now do I?

Two pieces that I would recommend to enrich your perspective on this, dear reader, would be *Straight Edge Anarchy: The Danger of a Sober Insurrection* as well as *Out of Step with the World*. They will be able to provide further comment, perhaps, that straight edge is inherently in opposition to the authoritarian logic.

I believe that because the Maoist still has faith in Hegel's synthesis, the argument such as Flower Bomb's is one that is impossible for them to account for. They simply will not accept this approach, which is inevitable. But I believe it does speak to the Christian stupidity of Marxian class analysis. The author speaks the word of God, but all God says through their mouth is to move the cattle from a rusting Zyklon-B chamber to an open-air slaughterhouse. **They are no longer to be shackled by the capitalists, so we will take bolt cutters to their cages and lead them into their new home in the forest so that we can destroy it…for the people's revolution, the intelligensia say!** It would be incorrect to call this reform, because it's simply a change of scenery brought to you by the infallible and immortal science of MLMism. It is such a nothing statement to make an argument of veganism out of that I'm hesitant to say this piece is even advocating for it.

And of course following this, they then say that veganism is a privilege that only those with wealth can access and that we must push forward the people's war to be able to be vegan? This is blatantly untrue as an seasoned vegan would tell you, it's even stranger under the circumstances because this is often an argument made against veganism by moralistic carnists claiming the framework to be classist. This is another host of thoughts that I will not be getting into.

Anyways, veganism is not a privilege. Not when communities are often spirited away from food desert status because of the availability of vegan food. Not when vegetables, beans, etc. are some of the cheapest items available in the aisles of grocery stores. Not when the surplus waste of consumer society floods the dumpsters of markets (which are oftentimes vegetables and fruit). Not when you can grow gardens of abundance in your own yard or in abandoned lots. Not when you get brave, for those that are brave will dine with champions.

And no, there is no need to build up anything. By waiting for the rain to fall, you are wasting your own time! Liberation does not delivered by the grace of a god nor is it the fulfillment of a prophecy like Marxists like to think with their eschatological preaching. The life you want can happen for it if you stop waiting for it like a Christian with a death wish. It happens because you decide to will your liberation into existence.

My revolution has already begun, the revolution of the non-human has already begun. Reading literally any radical vegan or green serialized publication will provide you with examples of the creatures of this world taking up arms here and now. From the buffalo that gore their would-be poachers to the pigs that rip the arms off Tyson slaughterhouse tyrants, it is happening and all you do is wait around for the "right" conditions like some kind of holy rolling dolt. Ha ha ha!

I will not be going into this further, I've digressed enough. There are already a myriad of resources available to those who want to learn more about this nonsense argument (Warzone Distro 2017).

Mao Tse-tung Wore The Armor Of Leviathan

"It's useless, I am rotten. Society has vanquished me. And hatred. I furiously hate the brutal humanity that has killed me … I wish that I could change myself into a wolf so I could sink my teeth into the belly of society in an orgy of destruction." – Bruno Filippi

This is the point I'm trying to make: it is impossible to abolish speciesism as a whole with authoritarianism. The very essence of the Marxian logic cannot allow the synthesis of anti-speciesism, its deterministic nature cannot accommodate recognizing the non-human as a subject of struggle; it is a necessarily a philosophy for capital "H" Humanity. This is of course expected, what with the history of Maoism being dank as hell with ecocidal bloodlust.

Perhaps the two most prominent examples of this is the Shining Path's advocacy for the slaughter of cattle due to their status as "capitalist instruments" (it wasn't just human children they wanted to massacre!) and the quite infamous Four Pests campaign which led the Eurasian tree sparrow to go extinct in China until an imported population from the Soviet Union was introduced. The Four Pests campaign was, believe it or not, spearheaded by the dishonorable chairman himself (the fucking idiot didn't realize that the sparrows were protecting the grain from Old Testament-esque swarms of locusts too.)

This essay about Maoist Vegan Straight Edge does not explicitly advocate for or mention these of course, but it does fail to break from speciesism in a meaningful way. The same logic which fueled these events fueled the creation of the essay in question. To provide an analogy: if Gonzalo Thought and the Four Pests campaign are in the image of fascism, then Maoist XVX is the neoliberal mask for it!

Marxism, like liberalism, humanism, capitalism, fascism, etc. are all facets of the totality some of us refer to as civilization. Civilization, as defined in *Barbaric Thoughts* is the network of institutions that dominates our lives. (Wolfi Landstreicher 2004) Our lives, the lives of the feeling-beings are pillaged by it. Our desire to live as free agents is punished, no matter what form it takes. Whether it flies the flag of capitalism, fascism, socialism, whatever the fuck. It's the same asshole leaving different smelly ass turds on our heads. Civilization and the anthropocentrism that it is necessarily bound to is what I and others have identified as the root of oppression.

To the author of the essay: You silly silly Maoist, the fight did not begin with the formation of class. Class is certainly part of this, but it is not the source of our problems. It's a symptom, the idea that it is the source is an anachronism.

The fight began before this, it began with the bifurcation of the human and the non-human; the hierarchization of all life began with the formation of the egregore of the civilized. As Feral Faun would describe it "the dichotomy between 'human' and 'nature' that keeps individuals from living wildly, that is, in terms of their desires" (Feral Faun 1991)

Concluding Thoughts

"*Discipline, discipline; obedience, obedience; slavery and ignorance, pregnant with authority. A bourgeois body grotesquely fattened by a vulgar christian creature. A medley of fetishism, sectarianism and cowardice.*" – Renzo Novatore on socialism.

I write this piece and make fun of this "vegan straight edge Maoist" in the forest at this moment. I sit among my fellow individuals as we speak. The poplars and sweetgums billow in the wind. I greet the grasshoppers and beetles and wasps and squirrels and deer as the water of the creek flows above my feet. There is a mutual understanding amongst us here, we are individuals together. What separates us does not hierarchize us, we have affinity here and now that no corporation, nation-state, vanguard party or any other face of Leviathan could ever realize.

The corporations sell virtue to the consumers in a branded "alternative" while their monoculture farms destroy ecosystems and feed beings rendered chattel. The IDF razes cities and rapes entire populations while its units wear plant-based combat boots, and apparently Maoists now write essays about how the ideology professed by their sparrow-annihilating theologian is at all compatible with the ideas of a liberatory veganism. No, this is merely red green-washing.

This piece is quite a potent portrayal to me of the absurdity of religious ways of thinking. Those who thump their bibles against the pulpit will try to find any way to re-interpret their ways of thinking, and Maoists are no exception to this rule. Of course, it's quite apparent to me that the author of this essay had to go through quite the mental gymnastics course in order to attempt (poorly) to make this make sense. Of course this piece would only make sense to those possessed by the bullshit ideas of Maoism and its lackluster dialectics.